Reflections of a submitting slave Part 1- Edris Kibalama

1. Without unpredictability, creativity can not exist

2. When you completely submit to Allah, He ALONE will

show you secrets you never knew existed

3. The secret to submitting(to Allah) completely, especially to His Qadar(at the strike of calamity), it that Allah is testing your belief and trust in Him, in order that He may see you fit to teach you what you did not know(although, you may have thought you did)

4. There is a beauty to the submission of Allah, that no soul can tell you, except those who have tasted it

5. Don't judge people. As some say: " Face your front" i.e. take care of what concerns you, and do not preoccupy yourself with that which does not concern you

6, Bliss is at the top edge of calamity

7. Have no doubt in Allah, and He shall fulfil your purpose

8. When it seems that all roads lead downhill, have muraqqabah(watchfulness of Allah). Know that Allah is watching your heart and actions, waiting for you to fully submit to him

9. Don't be in constant distress over where you are physically; take care(by the will of Allah), of your positive inclinations, wishes and desires(within your Allah- given capacity), and Allah will take care of the rest of your faculties, physical/ spiritual existence/ location and otherwise

Reflections of a submitting slave Part 2- Edris Kibalama

1. It is not for you to worry about what the reality of what happens to you. Your main concern, is taking care of your reactions- in light of your belief in Allah

2.Failure is in lack of patience; all sought-after success awaits you at the other end of patience; through its bitter, cold tunnel(metaphorically speaking), of which only Allah brings one ease. Completely submit to Allah(ALONE), and completely humble yourself to His Grandeur and decree

3,There is a wisdom to everything. Allah decrees everything. No one will ever know the secrets of Allah. The least one should do, is to know Allah, believe in Him, worsship Him alone, and trust completely, in the unseen with Him

4.Everything that Allah decrees is good; whether one understands that or not. Belief in it is key. Belief in it is the differentiating factor

5. Submission(to Allah) is bliss

6. Life is illusive. It may just elude uou, if one is not careful/ constantly and unendingly watchful. Don’t look to where you are physically(in this temporary abode). Look where your heart is(i.e. its inclinations, desires, wants, wishes and affirmations).

7. If your heart is in congruence with the path of the Prophets, then rejoice internally(at the bare minimum), thank Allah and keep moving on the path to Allah. Keep begging Him for further guidance.

8. If your heart is not aligned with the path of the Prophets, then beg Allah with the utmost sincerity, and submissiveness, to guide you.

Reflections of a spiritual survivor- Edris Kibalama

1. Some people believe that just by looking at you(strangely), your Allah-given path would cease

2. Never give in to the demands of one full of hate. It is them that needs to rectify their relationship with Allah, then with his Creation(the Creation of Allah). Never give in. Never hate anyone for your own desires

Reflections of an awakening slave(of Allah) Part 1- Edris Kibalama

1. A sincere unwavering intention is initself the goal, and not merely a means

2. Physical temporal strain, is eternal spiritual gain

3. You only live once, so be righteous, be good always, do your best, and live the best life you possibly can

4. I have never seen a quicker way for ones du’as to be answered other than, completely leaving off harming others by your own desires, and leaving off oppression in all its forms; whether it is1to your self, or the other creation of Allah. Wa Allahu A’lam

5. I have never known of a faster way to destruction except by persisting in harming others(knowingly)(out of line with the understanding of the Shari’ah), and by persisting in oppression, in any of its forms(whether to yourself or to the Creation of Allah), moreso without a morsel of regret. Wa Allahu A’lam

Reflections of an awakening slave(of Allah): Part 2- Edris Kibalama

1. In the confines of the worldly life, taking all the means never guarantees the specified goal. In the spiritual realm, taking all the necessary means, always guarantees the goal, ONLY by the permission, command, mercy and forgiveness of Allah

2. The thing about exercising too much fear(without the balance of hope), is that your inclinations are slightly warped, to say the least. Thus goes for the one exercising too much hope(without the balance of fear, or in its complete absence)

3. If you sincerely desire to be in the constant worship of Allah, and under his protection, never leave off these 4:

a. Istikhaarah- to seek assistance with Allah in all decisions
b. Isti'aanah- to seek assistance with Allah in all matters
c. Isti 'aadha- to seek refuge in Allah from all that distresses you
d. Istighaatha- to seek rescue from Allah, from all that you fear may harm you

4. Physical provision alone should not be sought after from the dunia. Most importantly, seek spiritual provision

Reflections on Patience and its fruits- Edris Kibalama

There sometimes comes in the life of a believer, trials so crippling that during the middle and end of the trial, one no longer desires the physical/ worldly object he/she had initially desired, and is now so filled with internal spiritual gems that he/ she would not even dare trade them, even for the whole world, and 10 times it.

Spirituality- Edris Kibalama

1. In essence, psyche(spirit)- ology(study of) is Spirituality

2. Modern Psychology diverted from its roots i.e. study of the soul/ spirit

3. In essence, Orthodox Islamic Spirituality is Suluuk(Spiritual Wayfaring)

Emotional Oblivion- Edris Kibalama

There lies within the soul a place which I term the Emotional Oblivion. A place of such intense emotion that it would render the most intellectual of minds worthless. A place that would completely incapacitate the most energetic of Humans. A place that would shatter all ones dreams one by one, until no desire is left for living or life. A place that would make death seem like the

only solution. A place where the only wish boils down to non-existence. A place of such sadness, that it would make sadness in it's generality seem like the greatest happiness one could achieve.

Cling on to the rope of Allah with your molar teeth and never let go. Learn of your Creator and about your Creator. Know what he wants from you. Worship in him alone. Balance hope in him, fear of Him. Love Him. Beg Him to love you and to allow you to love Him, and to allow Him to grant you the love of all those that He loves. Always ask Him for guidance, knowledge, wisdom happiness, spiritual contentment, peace, tranquility and never-ending patience

Never approach 'the emotional oblivion'; a place of great despair, hopelessness and consequently leads to utter destruction to your whole existence..a path that leads to rejection of the beautiful and sublime Names and attributes of your Creator, complete disbelief in Him and ultimately to the hell fire...Wa Allahu A'lam

May Allah guide us all Ameen

Brief Auto Biography- Edris Kibalama

In The Name of Allah, The Entirely Merciful, The Especially Merciful

All Praises belong to Allah
And The Peace of Allah be upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family, companions and all those that follow him till the day of judgement

To proceed:

I was born in Uganda, in Kampala, the capital city. My
Father(rahimahumullah·) died when I was around 2 years old. I was raised an orphan by my Mother's family, who are majority Christian

The Religion Classification Conundrum
However much I try to explain to individuals about my religious background, the majority have still not understood it: Let's just say, I am 4th generation of Muslims from my Genealogy, and I was raised in a Christian household...that is the best summary I can give.

Need for attention
Ever since I was a child, I've always either been the centre of attention, or Allah has still provided me with an individual or individuals to fulfil certain emotional, spiritual needs etc

The Emotional Deficit Conundrum
As I was approaching my current age, I came across certain individuals and groups that thought they would force an fuelled/ unenergised car to drive, moreover around the world and back(metaphorically speaking)...an impossible feat, to all those who have intellect

Even if we go with the argument about electrical cars etc, then each vehicle with it's fuel/ energy type or in whatever combination, requires it's specific amount of it, preferably at the optimum combination for that vehicle to even attempt to perform to at least a satisfactory standard; not even having gone into the other many variables within the full structure of the car...So, now we enter the world of Holistic living

The beginning of holistic living, search for the truth, re-encounter with Islaam, Islamic Orthodoxy and eventually Orthodox Islamic Spirituality, Peace, Contentment and Forever Thankful to My Creator, Allah Subhana Wa ta 'aala Allah guided me to eventually make Hijra to a land far from where I was raised, given my straitened circumstances, as I went out in the search for independence, meaning, success and consequently, for the purpose of life.

Eventually, Allah allowed me to find my life purpose, of being solely and purely in the worship of my Creator, and hence I am here today, sharing my experiences and most importantly my gratitude to Allah for guiding me to Islam, Orthodoxy, the balanced religious path and beyond

Alhamdulillah

May Allah guide us all Ameen

Return to Africa
My return to Africa was one of iintense emotional experiences, spiritual happenings and miraculous events

Salvation
Given the many Brits and Western- raised individuals that return to Africa, and never come back alive...my return back to Leicester from Africa, was not short of miraculous, for lack of a better term

Looking forward
Worshipping Allah till death should be our main goal, if not our only goal, as well as fulfilling all our obligations towards Allah, all our contracts and most importantly, our main/ only eternal contract of "Laa illaah illallah"/ There is no deity worthy of worship, in TRUTH, Except ALLAH

May Allah guide us all Ameen

Reflections on Marriage
Refer to my other books for further life reflections etc

May Allah guide us all Ameen

All Praises belong to Allah, The Entirely Merciful, The Especially Merciful
And The Peace of Allah be upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family, companions and all those that follow him till the day of judgement

Assalam 'aleikom warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Walking with Angels- Edris Kibalama

In The Name of Allah, The Entirely Merciful, The Especially Merciful

All Praises belong to Allah
And The Peace of Allah be upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family, companions and all those that follow him till the day of judgement

Through the distresses of homelessness on the streets of Nigeria…That's when it happened…a figure appeared in front of me at a distance, walking and guiding me out of possibly approaching trouble and turmoil…I looked directly behind me, and another figure in the form of a brightly shining star could hardly be made out. I then continued to follow the figure in-front until we reached the famous junctions/ crossroads within central Abuja area. As the figure began to leave and disappear never to be seen(Wa Allahu A'lam) again, it made a gesture of takbir as it left, as one would do as they are starting their Salat/ Prayers to Allah. As I did not have much provisions let alone access to a clock/ the time etc, I figured it was fajr, so due to extreme fear, lack of provision and safety, the dangers I encountered on the streets of Abuja as a homeless person and the need to fulfil my Creator's command of praying my Fajr/ morning prayer, I immediately made takbeer and started prayer. A Muslim must not look to his sides or move around in his prayer, once it commences, however as I concentrated on my prayer(Wa Allahu A'lam), I could see at the corner of my eyes, figures on the left and figures on the right, aligned on both sides of me in prayer formation, in the form of clear, dark shadows. Once I completed my prayer and was in the process of giving tasleem/ the ending of the prayer, the figures disappeared and I was back again confronted with the reality of my temporary homelessness on the streets of Central Abuja, Nigeria.

May Allah guide us all Ameen

All Praises belong to Allah
And The Peace of Allah be upon the Prophet Muhammad, his family, companions and all those that follow him till the day of judgement